

"My name is Erica Keane. My father had passed in the line of duty in May 2007. I was ten years old and my brother, John, was eight.

Had it not been for the Connecticut Survivor's Benefits, I would not be where I am today. Along with being a ten year old child, my brother eight, and dealing with the loss of a parent, my brother and I would be deprived of our Catholic education. We would have dealt with not only the loss of our father, but also, potentially, the loss of our home.

Currently, I am a freshman enrolled at the University of Hartford in the College of Engineering, Technology and Architecture studying biomedical engineering, possibly adding an electrical concentration and a minor in mathematics next semester.

Furthering my education may not have been an option had it not been for the Connecticut's Survivor's Benefits.

Theoretically, had the Connecticut Survivor's Benefits not been in effect, I would not have had the opportunity to enroll in any college due to financial circumstances.

Please take my story into consideration.

A child who loses their parent during duty on the fire department will hopefully never have to be deprived of a quality education.

Sincerely,

Erica M. Keane